



Ministry of Health Library

# Grey Matter

## A Collection of Recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government Reports

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Welcome to Grey Matter, the Ministry of Health Library's Grey Literature Bulletin. In each issue, we provide access to a selection of the most recent NGO, Think Tank, and International Government reports that are relevant to the health context. The goal of this newsletter is to facilitate access to material that may be more difficult to locate (in contrast to journal articles and the news media). Information is arranged by topic, allowing readers to quickly identify their key areas of interest. Email [library@moh.govt.nz](mailto:library@moh.govt.nz) to subscribe.

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### Equity

#### [Achieving physical health equity for people with experience of mental health and addiction issues](#)

"his report provides the Equally Well collaborative with the latest evidence to inform and guide actions to achieve physical health equity for people with experience of mental health and addiction issues." *Source: Te Pou*

#### [Māori Suicide Prevention Research, Policy & Practice](#)

“The seven symposium imperatives respond to the rising inequities in Māori suicide by honing the collective efforts of the Government to support Tino Rangatiratanga/Māori self-determination alongside of the Treaty settlements process.” *Source: University of Otago & Te Rau Ora*

### **[Ethnic inequalities in children and young people’s access to disability-related support](#)**

This analysis has arisen because Māori and Pasifika as well as other ethnic minorities do not appear to have equitable access to disability-related support. It is vital that disability-related support is available equally to all disabled people and their whānau with as few barriers as possible. Disability-related support should be reducing not exacerbating ethnic inequalities. To examine these concerns, this briefing has investigated the ethnic profile of two forms of support for disabled children and young people. *Source: CCS Disability Action (New Zealand)*

### **[The state of wellbeing and equality for disabled people, their families, and whanau](#)**

“The needs of disabled people and our organisation’s Strategic Priorities are confirmed, supported and backed by the data in this wellbeing report. There is an ongoing and glaringly obvious need for change to occur to ensure disabled people are included and can function as full citizens in their communities.” *Source: CCS Disability Action (New Zealand)*

### **[Over-exposed and under-protected: the devastating impact of Covid-19 on black and minority ethnic communities in Great Britain](#)**

“This report illuminates why BME groups are at greater risk from Covid-19: they are more likely to be working outside their home, more likely to be using public transport, more likely to be working in key worker roles, less likely to be protected with PPE and more likely to live in multigenerational, overcrowded housing, so much less able to self-isolate and shield.”  
*Source: Runnymede Trust (UK)*

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## **Mental Health & Addiction**

### **[Side by side: supporting youth peer work in mental health services](#)**

“This policy paper outlines the barriers youth peer workers face and makes ten recommendations for ensuring that the workforce grows and is well-supported.” *Source: Orygen (Australia)*

### **[Mai te whai-ao ki te ao mārama: Coming into the light – Mothers’ experiences of distress and wellbeing during pregnancy and the first year of motherhood](#)**

“This report provides insights from a small group of women with lived experience of mental distress. Interviews were undertaken with 17 mothers whose ages ranged from 18 to 40+. Eight lived in the Far North, six in Wellington, and one each in Whangarei, Rotorua and Fielding. The report aims to provide insights on some experiences of maternal mental health to inform Te Hiringa Hauora work. The report does not attempt to capture or understand the full range of potential experiences of mothers living with mental distress.” *Source: Te Hiringa Hauora/Health Promotion Agency*

### **[Trauma-informed healthcare: A resource for health practitioners supporting children and whānau in primary care settings](#)**

“Trauma experiences are common. This resource is for health practitioners supporting children and whānau in primary care settings. It describes the impact of trauma on physical health and wellbeing, and people’s engagement with services. Guidance is provided on how health services can become trauma-informed when supporting children and whānau.”

*Source: LeVa, Te Pou and Werry Workforce.*

### **[Youth mental health in Aotearoa New Zealand – Greater urgency required](#)**

“In light of worsening mental health among New Zealand youth over the past decade, a new Koi Tū commentary piece is calling for urgent action to better understand the underlying factors and effective strategies for prevention and intervention. Youth mental health in Aotearoa New Zealand: Greater urgency required warns that the ‘silent pandemic’ of mental health morbidity among NZ and other youth globally, exacerbated by COVID-19, will have adverse lifelong consequences if not addressed as a matter of priority.” *Source: Koi Tū: The Centre for Informed Futures*

### **[Report: Youth19, Initial Findings: Hauora Hinengaro / Emotional & Mental Health](#)**

“This report provides an overview of Youth19 mental health findings.” *Source: Youth19 A Youth2000 Survey*

### **[Trauma and adversity: Findings from the Mental Health Fellowships](#)**

“This briefing on Trauma and Adversity brings together learning from six Fellows’ research in the USA, Norway, Sweden, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Australia, New Zealand and Canada, that focuses on how community-based approaches are being used to effectively support people affected by trauma.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation (UK)*

### **[Creativity and innovation: Findings from the Mental Health Fellowships](#)**

“This briefing on Creativity and Innovation brings together learning from six Fellows’ research in Finland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the USA and Australia, demonstrating how the creative arts and digital technological innovations are being used abroad to effectively support people’s mental health.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation (UK)*

### **[Growing up and growing old: Findings from the Mental Health Fellowships](#)**

“This briefing on Growing Up and Growing Old brings together learning from eight Fellows’ research in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the USA and Ireland, that focuses on how community-based approaches are being used to effectively support the mental health of people in the early and later stages of life.” *Source: Mental Health Foundation (UK)*

### **[‘It’s everywhere’: alcohol’s public face and private harm](#)**

The Alcohol Harm Commission was set up to examine the full extent of harm across the UK: the physical, mental and social harm caused to people around the drinker, to wider society and to the drinker themselves.” *Source: Commission on Alcohol Harm (UK)*

### **[How has Covid-19 and associated lockdown measures affected loneliness in the UK?](#)**

“Before Covid-19 reached the UK, loneliness had already been recognised as an important issue facing many people in society. Social connections and having someone to rely on in times of trouble is one of the strongest drivers of overall wellbeing. Feeling lonely is strongly

associated with reporting high anxiety and has been linked directly to poor physical and mental health.” *Source: What Works Centre for Wellbeing*

### **[Mental health services and Covid-19: preparing for the rising tide](#)**

“Mental health services have faced unprecedented challenges due to Covid-19. They quickly and effectively moved to different ways of working to protect service users and staff. As we move to the next phase of the pandemic, we expect demand for mental health support to increase and to remain high for some time. This will have serious implications on resourcing and staff wellbeing. This report from the NHS Reset campaign considers what mental health services need to prepare for the expected surge in demand. It also highlights how the health and care system can 'reset' the way care and support are planned and delivered in aftermath of Covid-19.” *Source: NHS Confederation*

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## **Disability & Social Care**

### **["I want to see my friends": the everyday experiences of autistic people and their families during COVID-19](#)**

“Despite all the talk of being “in it together”, the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting lockdowns have had dramatically varied effects on different communities across Australia and the world. This report is the first major investigation into the impact on autistic people and their families.” *Source: Sydney Policy Lab*

### **[Guidelines on the rights of people with disability in health and disability care during COVID-19](#)**

“The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the systemic disadvantage that people with disability face in Australia and around the world. These guidelines are designed to ensure that human rights considerations inform the decisions made by health care and disability workers when supporting people with disability.” *Source: Australian Human Rights Commission*

### **[Self-building our Lives: Social Care Research Report](#)**

“The report is based on a two-year ESRC-funded collaborative research project to find out how people with learning disabilities have been seeking to ‘self-build’ their lives together with their families, friends, advocates and local support organisations. Its findings are focused around the key ‘building blocks’ in people’s lives, including finding information and keeping and feeling safe in the community. It found that social care provision is becoming more personalised for disabled people in the UK. Increasingly people in need of social care are being asked to take more responsibility for organising care, support, work and activities, what we are terming ‘self-building’ daily lives or ‘self-build social care’. In particular, it outlines how this can be achieved through independent brokerage, advocacy, community peer support and self-advocacy opportunities.” *Source: #SelfBuildingOurLives (UK)*

### **[Going for GOLD! Greater Manchester Growing Older with Learning Disabilities: an inclusive research project to reduce social isolation amongst older adults with learning disabilities](#)**

“People with learning disabilities are living longer and most now live in community settings. However, they are at increased risk of social isolation, with older adults with learning disabilities at particular risk. The Greater Manchester Growing Older with Learning Disabilities (GM GOLD) project aimed to reduce social isolation amongst older adults (aged 50+) with learning disabilities and find out what made somewhere an age-friendly place to live for older adults with learning disabilities.” *Source: Manchester Metropolitan University*

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## **Family Violence**

### **[Violence against women and mental health](#)**

“This paper provides a synthesis of ANROWS’s research on violence against women and mental health, examining the way that mental health intersects with trauma, complex trauma, disability, coercive control, access to justice and parenting. It is designed for policymakers and practitioners engaging with women affected by violence.” *Source: Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety*

### **[Working across sectors to meet the needs of clients experiencing domestic and family violence](#)**

“Victims/survivors often have complex and multiple needs that cannot be met by one service. Integrated approaches bring services together in formal and informal ways to work collaboratively to meet the needs of clients. Integrated approaches also have the potential to reduce risk, including the risk of secondary victimisation caused by inappropriate service responses. This paper synthesises what we know about what works, and what doesn’t for collaborative practice. It collates existing ANROWS research recommendations into a useful resource for policymakers, practice designers and practitioners interested in establishing an integrated response, with links provided to proven resources. Brief case studies are included to help identify the unique challenges and benefits of different approaches to integrated service provision.” *Source: Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety*

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## **Health Technology**

### **[The effective and sustainable adoption of virtual health care](#)**

“With Australians more open to using technology in health care, this has led to optimism across the sector that there will be a willingness to embrace these technologies in care to achieve more long-term health care reform. However, a forward-looking approach to virtual health care would involve planning to embrace the opportunities which may be available, for example, through remote monitoring, data-driven quality improvement, artificial intelligence and other innovations, to create new models of care.” *Source: Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA)*

### **[Technology and innovation for long-term health conditions](#)**

“This paper, commissioned by the Academic Health Science Network, looks at four digital innovations in health services from the UK and the Nordic countries: the TeleCare North programme, which provides remote treatment for people with chronic obstructive pulmonary

disease (COPD); the Patients Know Best portal and electronic health record; remote diabetes monitoring for children at Helsinki University Hospital; and the Huoleti app that connects patients with a support network. The case studies illustrate the potential of digital technology to transform care, particularly through empowering patients, supporting stronger therapeutic relationships and effective teamworking across professional boundaries, and creating networks and communities to support patients.” *Source: King’s Fund (UK)*

### **Digital Health Generation? Young people’s use of ‘healthy lifestyle’ technologies**

“This report details the findings of the Wellcome Trust project entitled ‘The Digital Health Generation: the impact of “healthy lifestyle” technologies on young people’s learning, identities and health practices’. The project generated new insights on young people’s use of digital health technologies and involved research with over 1,000 young people and families.” *Source: Wellcome Trust*

### **The impact of Covid-19 on the use of digital technology in the NHS**

“The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in the adoption of digital technology in the NHS and changes to the way services are delivered at an incredible pace. So as the health service works hard to get back to something like normality, are all the elements of this sea change in digital practice positive, or do some adaptations need further scrutiny before they become more deeply embedded?” *Source: Nuffield Trust*

### **Evaluation of the Attend Anywhere / Near Me video consulting service in Scotland, 2019-20**

“Attend Anywhere is a video consultations service used across health and care services in Scotland. In July 2019 the Scottish Government commissioned the University of Oxford (Department of Primary Care Health Sciences) to undertake an independent evaluation of the service. The aim of the evaluation was to review progress and achievements in relation to the use and outcomes of Attend Anywhere, and to develop an understanding of the implementation experience to date.” *Source: Scottish Government*

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## **Child, Youth, & Maternal Health**

### **The whole society approach: making a giant leap on childhood health**

“The UK has the opportunity to make another ‘giant leap’ forward. Long-term conditions require a more preventative approach to health. The earlier a preventative measure, the better. This means childhood health is one of the most important frontiers in modern health policy. Yet childhood health outcomes in the UK are poor, with rising rates of obesity and mental ill health particular concerns. Addressing this, through comprehensive and sustained policy, would give government the opportunity to make another giant leap forward, comparable to the kind seen in previous centuries.” *Source: Institute for Public Policy Research*

### **Improving outcomes for young parents and their children: Effective policy settings and practice approaches**

“Young maternal age is strongly linked with poor outcomes for both mothers and their children, including: adverse physical and mental health; poor educational attainment; welfare

dependency and poverty; and intergenerational involvement with the child protection and criminal justice systems. However, effective cross-sectoral support across health, education and social services can prevent adverse outcomes and break the multigenerational cycle of adolescent parenthood. The literature review identifies key elements of effective approaches.” *Source: Uniting Australia*

### [Nutrition During Pregnancy and Lactation: Exploring New Evidence: Proceedings of a Workshop](#)

“The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine last reviewed the state of the science on nutrition during pregnancy and lactation 30 years ago. The resulting consensus study reports from the Institute of Medicine—Nutrition During Pregnancy (IOM, 1990) and Nutrition During Lactation (IOM, 1991)—summarized the scientific evidence and provided nutrient recommendations. In the decades since the release of these two reports, the body of evidence on the relationships between nutrition during pregnancy and lactation and maternal and infant health and chronic disease has continued to grow and evolve. At the same time, the demographics of the population have shifted, giving rise to new considerations. To explore the evidence that has emerged, the National Academies conducted a 2-day workshop in January 2020. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*

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## **Workforce**

### [How to embed flexible working for nurses](#)

“This resource is aimed at colleagues that have a responsibility or interest in implementing flexible working, including HR professionals, line managers and nurse leaders. While the focus of this guide is tailored to the nursing workforce, improving access to flexible working for all staff groups is important in making the NHS an attractive place to work and many of the principles outlined in this guide can be applied regardless of job role, grade, or profession.” *Source: NHS Employers (UK)*

### [We are working for our people: growing and strengthening the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce](#)

“The aim of this report is to provide insight and guidance to enhance the capacity of the workplaces, and the health system more broadly to retain and support the development and careers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the workforce.” *Source: Lowitja Institute*

### [Pharmacy’s role in primary care network multidisciplinary teams supporting care homes](#)

“This briefing explores how pharmacy professionals are supporting care homes. It spotlights examples of collaborative working in local areas and provides top tips to support PCNs.” *Source: NHS Confederation (UK)*

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## Public Health

### [Interim Framework for COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation and Distribution in the United States](#)

“The principal product of this report is an ethical framework to guide discussion and inform decisions about vaccine allocation.” *Source: John Hopkins*

### [Encouraging Participation and Cooperation in Contact Tracing: Lessons from Survey Research](#)

“Encouraging Participation and Cooperation in Contact Tracing is intended to help decision makers in local public health departments and local governments increase participation and cooperation in contact tracing related to COVID-19. This publication focuses on contact tracing methods that involve phone, text, or email interviews with people who have tested positive and with others they may have exposed to the virus.” *Source: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*

### [COVID-19: Reflections on initial response](#)

“This report, based on interviews from across the organisation (Ngāti Porou Hauora), has been developed to help assess the effectiveness of our response to the threat of COVID-19; determine the impact on organisation function and morale; and identify learnings. It is too early to fully evaluate the response, and COVID-19 is not over, but we thought it was useful to capture some of the organisational responses and experiences of the journey while fresh in the mind.” *Source: Ngāti Porou Hauora*

### [Vaccine Access and Hesitancy: Part One of a Workshop Series: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief](#)

“This workshop, the first in a series on the topic of vaccine access and vaccine hesitancy, took place via Zoom on May 28, 2020. The remaining meetings are scheduled for August 17–20, 2020. The coronavirus pandemic made clear that people want scientific information, but many distrust it at the same time, making questions of vaccine hesitancy even more prominent. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.” *Source: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*

### [Antimicrobial stewardship programmes in primary care: 2020 progress report](#)

“This report sets out to explore how antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) programmes are working to tackle antimicrobial resistance (AMR), by asking Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) about their practice and experience of local stewardship. It is a follow-up to the Patients Association’s 2016 report on the same subject, and highlights some progress and areas for improvement in key areas.” *Source: Patient Safety Learning*

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## Health of Older People

### [Dementia and COVID-19: Social Contact](#)

“This briefing sets out the evidence for action to support social contact for people living with dementia.” *Source: Alzheimer’s Society UK*

### [Quality of Life, Preventing Elder Abuse, and Fostering Living Well After a Dementia Diagnosis: Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief](#)

“On July 8, 2020, the Committee on Developing a Behavioral and Social Science Research Agenda on Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias hosted a public workshop via webcast. This Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief summarizes the key points made by the workshop participants during the presentations and discussions.”

*Source: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*

### [Understanding Nursing Home, Hospice, and Palliative Care for Individuals with Later-Stage Dementia: Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief](#)

“On July 7, 2020, the Committee on Developing a Behavioral and Social Science Research Agenda on Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias hosted a public workshop via webcast. This Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief summarizes the key points made by the workshop participants during the presentations and discussions.”

*Source: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*

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## **Health Systems, Costs, & Reforms**

### [Achieving Person-Centred Health Systems: Evidence, Strategies and Challenges](#)

“The idea of person-centred health systems is widely advocated in political and policy declarations to better address health system challenges. A person-centred approach is advocated on political, ethical and instrumental grounds and believed to benefit service users, health professionals and the health system more broadly. However, there is continuing debate about the strategies that are available and effective to promote and implement ‘person-centred’ approaches.” *Source: European Observatory*

### [First Do No Harm: The report of the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review](#)

“This Review was announced in the House of Commons on 21st February 2018 by Jeremy Hunt, the then Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. Its purpose is to examine how the healthcare system in England responds to reports about harmful side effects from medicines and medical devices and to consider how to respond to them more quickly and effectively in the future.” *Source: Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review*

### [The health and social care costs of a selection of health conditions and multi-morbidities](#)

“This work has empirically assessed the impact of multi-morbidity on NHS and social care costs. With the aim of answering the question: is the impact of developing a condition on health and social care costs greater for someone with no prior conditions, or for someone with an existing condition.” *Source: Public Health England*

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***public and is not intended to address specific circumstances of any particular individual or entity.***